

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS STATE 220694

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, EAGR

SUBJECT: OIE ASSESSMENT FOR EXTRAORDINARY CONTRIBUTION

1. U.S. PERMANENT DELEGATE TO THE OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL
EPIZOOTICS HAS PROVIDED DEPARTMENT WITH COPY OF LETTER
FROM OIE DIRECTOR GENERAL VITTOZ WHICH, INTER ALIA, REQUEST
U.S. CONTRIBUTION OF 30,000 FRENCH FRANCS FOR 1976 EX-
TRAORDINARY CONTRIBUTION VOTED BY XLIVGENERAL SESSION, MAY
17-22, 1976. LETTER INDICATES THIS EXTRAORDINARY CONTRI-
BUTION (TOTALLING 2 MILLION FRENCH FRANCS FROM ALL MEMBERS)
WILL BE USED FOR "TRANSFORMATION, FITTINGS AND MAINTENANCE"
OF OIE PREMISES.

2. DEPARTMENT HAS CONCERN THAT OIE HAS RESORTED TO "EXTRA
ORDINARY CONTRIBUTION" TO MEET NEEDS WHICH PROPERLY SHOULD
BE MET BY HOST GOVERNMENT OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION
OR REGULAR BUDGET WHICH COVERS BASIC NEEDS OF ORGANIZATION.

3. OUR INTERPRETATION OF PORTION OF ARTICLE 14 OF OIE'S
RULES, WHICH ORGANIZATION CITES TO JUSTIFY EXTRAORDINARY
CONTRIBUTION, IS SOMEWHAT DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF OIE.
WE REALIZE REPAIRS NEW INSTALLATIONS AND NEW EQUIPMENT
COULD BE CONSTRUED BY SOME AS "DEFINITE OBJECTS LINKED WITH
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THE NORMAL ACTIVITIES OF THE OFFICE" BUT QUESTION WHETHER

THIS WORDING OF ARTICLE WAS NOT INTENDED TO PERTAIN TO URGENT PROGRAM ACTIVITIES NOT FORESEEN WHEN REGULAR BUDGET APPROVED. DEPARTMENT IS FURTHER CONCERNED THAT OIE GAVE MEMBERS NO WARNING OF THIS PROPOSAL PRIOR TO MEETING AND EVEN NOW HAVE PROVIDED SCANT INFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF REQUESTED FUNDS.

4. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY DETERMINING WHAT ATTEMPTS OIE HAS MADE TO COVER PROPOSED EXPENDITURE FROM SOURCES OTHER THAN "EXTRAORDINARY ASSESSMENT." WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE GREATER DETAILS CONCERNING THIS PROPOSED EXPENDITURE AND JUSTIFICATION THEREFOR. YOU MAY DRAW ON PREVIOUS COMMENTS AS NECESSARY BUT SUGGEST YOU REFLECT SERIOUS U.S. CONCERN OVER PROCEDURE USED, INDICATE THE INFORMATION REQUESTED IS URGENTLY NEEDED TO ASSIST IN DETERMINING IF THIS UNUSUAL ASSESSMENT IS ONE U.S. WILL BE IN POSITION TO PAY, AND STRESS NEED FOR MEMBER GOVERNMENTS TO BE SUPPLIED WITH EXACT BUDGETARY-PROPOSAL INFORMATION IN ADVANCE OF FUTURE ANNUAL MEETINGS ROBINSON

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